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Comments in Response to Reasons for Allowance



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Larry D. HEBEL *et al.* CONFIRMATION No.: 8301
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/532,404 EXAMINER: Quang N. Nguyen
FILING DATE : March 22, 2000 ART UNIT: 2141
FOR : DYNAMIC METHOD FOR CONNECTING A CLIENT TO A SERVER APPLICATION

**COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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Commissioner for Patents
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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

A statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter was attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed November 1, 2006, for the above-identified application.

The Applicant appreciates the Notice of Allowance for all claims of the present application, but would like to note that each independent claim and each dependent claim is separately patentably distinguishable over the references relied upon by the Examiner, as such references do not disclose or render obvious the respective combinations of elements in each respective independent and each respective dependent claim.

For example, the references relied upon by the Examiner do not disclose, teach, or suggest a method for communication between a plurality of clients and a server in a computer network, each of the plurality of clients having a rotation position according to claim 7 of the present invention, which includes:

receiving, at the server, a first message from a first of the plurality of clients, the first message having a priority level, the first message requesting processing by the server;

receiving, at the server, a second message from a second of the plurality of clients, the second message having a priority level, the second message requesting processing by the server;

reading the priority level of the first message at the server;

reading the priority level of the second message at the server;

determining at the server the rotation position of the first of the plurality of clients;

and

processing the first message and the second message by:

processing the first message before the second message when the priority level of the first message is higher than the priority level of the second message, and

processing the first message before the second message when the first and second messages have the same priority level and the rotation position of the first client is before rotation position of the second client.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a network system for processing messages according to Claim 16 of the present invention, which includes:

a plurality of clients operable to generate and communicate messages having one or more priority levels to a server, each message requesting processing by the server, each of the plurality of clients having a rotation position; and

the server coupled to the clients, the server operable to receive one or more messages from the clients, to determine a priority level for each message, and to process the messages according to the priority levels of the messages and the rotation positions of the clients,

wherein the server is further operable to receive a first message from a first client and a second message from a second client, to process the first message before the second message if a priority level of the first message is higher than a priority level of the second message, and to process the first message before the second message if

the first and second messages have the same priority level and a rotation position of the first client is before a rotational position of the second client.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a server operable to couple a first client and a second client, each of the first and second clients having a rotation position according to Claim 27 of the present invention, which includes:

- one or more computer processors operable to:

- receive a first message from the first client and a second message from the second client, each of the first and second message having a priority level,
 - determine the priority level of the first and second messages,
 - determine the rotation position of the first and second clients,
 - process the first message before the second message if the priority level of the first message is higher than the priority level of the second message, and
 - process the first message before the second message if the first and second messages have the same priority level and the rotation position of the first client is before the rotation position of the second client.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a method for processing messages at a server according to Claim 32 of the present invention, which includes:

- receiving a first message from a first client, the first message requesting processing by the server;
- determining a priority level of the first message;
- receiving a second message from a second client, the second message requesting processing by the server;
- determining a priority level of the second message; and
- processing the messages in order according to the priority levels of the messages and rotation positions of the clients, wherein processing the messages in

order according to the priority levels of the messages and the rotation positions of the clients further comprises:

processing the messages in order of the priority levels of the messages if the messages have different priority levels, and
processing the messages in order of the rotation positions of the clients if the messages have a same priority level.

These comments, in response to the Examiner's reasons for indicating allowable subject matter, are timely submitted.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975 (Ref. No. 019287-0318991). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Date: December 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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